

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim ~~2-14~~, wherein said hydrophilic bottom surface is a reagent layer, wherein said reagent layer includes the reagent that is necessary for analysis.
4. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 14, wherein the shape of the compartment is tetragon.
5. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 14, wherein the shape of the compartment is hexagon.
6. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 14, wherein the shape of the compartment is circular.
7. (Currently Amended) A dry analytical element consisting essentially of:
  - a water impermeable support;
  - a mesh layer, wherein said mesh layer defines compartments on the surface of said water impermeable support, said compartments having:
    - a hydrophilic bottom surface, wherein said hydrophilic bottom surface is a polymer, and
    - an open top surface; and
  - reagent necessary for analysis in said compartments.
8. (Currently amended) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 7, wherein said hydrophilic bottom surface is disposed between said water impermeable support and said mesh layer.
9. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 8, wherein said hydrophilic bottom surface is a reagent layer, wherein said reagent layer includes the reagent that is necessary for analysis.

10. (Currently Amended) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 9, wherein said mesh layer is a punching sheet, further wherein said punching sheet is hydrophilic.

11. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 7, wherein the shape of the mesh layer is tetragon.

12. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 7, wherein the shape of the mesh layer is hexagon.

13. (Previously presented) The dry analytical element as claimed in claim 7, wherein the shape of the mesh layer is circular.

14. (Currently amended) A dry analytical element consisting essentially of:

a water impermeable support;

a water impermeable frame body which defines a compartment in said water impermeable support, said compartment having:

a hydrophilic bottom surface, wherein said hydrophilic bottom surface is a polymer, and

an open top surface; and

reagent necessary for analysis in said compartment.